



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon
National Parks

47050 Generals Hwy.
Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone
559 565-3730 fax

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: November 28, 2012

Contact: Dana M. Dierkes

Phone Number: (559) 565-3131 (o), 559-679-2866 (cell)

Invitation to the “Trek to the Tree” Ceremony at Kings Canyon National Park on Sunday, December 9, 2012

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, CA – Are you looking for something fun to do with your family and friends to celebrate the holidays? Would you like to honor those who fought and died for our freedom? If so, you are invited to attend the 87th Trek to the Nation’s Christmas Tree ceremony on Sunday, December 9, 2012, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Kings Canyon National Park. The event, which is sponsored by the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the National Park Service, will include the Jubilation Singers, Sanger High School Choir, and a non-denominational holiday message. During the ceremony, a National Park Service representative will speak about the General Grant Tree’s role as a national shrine in memory of the men and women of the Armed Forces who have served, fought, and died to keep America free. A memorial wreath will be placed at the base of the General Grant Tree. The ceremony will be held at the General Grant Tree, a ¼-mile walk from an adjacent parking lot. Given limited parking at the grove, a free shuttle service will be available from the Kings Canyon Visitor Center parking area to the Grant Tree Trail. Allow an extra 30 minutes to use this in-park shuttle service. Access through the entrance to Kings Canyon National Park will be free from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on December 9 to allow park visitors to attend the event.

To reach Kings Canyon National Park by vehicle, take Highway 180 east from Fresno for approximately 55 miles. For detailed directions, visit www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/driving-directions.htm. Visitors are strongly advised to check road/weather conditions in advance and/or be prepared for bad weather. Walking surfaces may be slippery and snowy. Travelers should provide additional time to accommodate for weather conditions. Drivers must bring and be prepared to use tire chains, if required. For weather and road condition information, call 559-565-3341 and press 1, 1, 1. *(Please call back again if you have difficulty in getting through on our phone line, as we are experiencing technical difficulties at this time.)* In addition, a shuttle bus to the park from Sanger, CA, is available with a fee and by reservation at 559-875-4575.

For more information about Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.

–NPS–